

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

This declaration is of the following type:

- ☒ original
- ☐ divisional
- ☐ continuation
- ☐ continuation-in-part

**INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION**

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**FORMATION OF A TANTALUM-NITRIDE LAYER**

**SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION**

The specification of which:

- ☒ is attached hereto
- ☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_, under Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, executed on even date herewith; or
- ☐ Express Mail No. (as Serial No. not yet known)
- ☐ and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)
- ☐ was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ filed on \_\_\_\_\_ and as amended under PCT Article 19 on \_\_\_\_\_.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR**

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information I know to be material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56,

and which is material to the examination of this application; namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, and

- ☐ In compliance with this duty there is attached an Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98.

06776363 060201

# PRIORITY CLAIM (35 U.S.C. §119)

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119, of any provisional or foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below, and have also identified below any provisional or foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

☒ No such applications have been filed.

☐ Such applications have been filed as follows:

- A. Prior foreign/PCT application(s) filed within 12 mos. (6 mos. for design) prior to this application, and any priority claims under 35 U.S.C. §119

<u>Country/PCT</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Filed</u>	<u>Priority Claimed</u>
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

- B. All foreign application(s), if any, filed more than 12 mos. (6 mos for design) prior to this U.S. application

Country:  
Application No:  
Filing date:

- C. U.S. Provisional Application filed within 12 months prior to this application

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
-------------------	--------------------

# PRIORITY CLAIM (35 U.S.C. §120)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120, of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the examination of this application (namely, information where there is substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

☒ No such applications have been filed

☐ Such applications have been filed, as follows:

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Status</u>		
		<u>Patented</u>	<u>Pending</u>	<u>Abandoned</u>

POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Donald Verplancken	Registration No. 33,217
Michael B. Einschlag	Registration No. 29,301
Peter J. Sgarbossa	Registration No. 25,610
Lawrence Edelman	Registration No. 25,226
Michael L. Sherrard	Registration No. 28,041
Raymond Kam-On Kwong	Registration No. 37,165
James C. Wilson	Registration No. 35,412
Robert W. Mulcahy	Registration No. 25,436
Sarah J. Brashears	Registration No. 37,087
B. Todd Patterson	Registration No. 37,906
Raymond R. Moser, Jr.	Registration No. 34,682
Keith M. Tackett	Registration No. 32,008
Douglas H. Elliott	Registration No. 32,982
William B. Patterson	Registration No. 34,102

Send correspondence to:

Patent Counsel  
Applied Materials, Inc.  
P.O. Box 450-A  
Santa Clara, CA 95052

Direct telephone calls to:

B. Todd Patterson  
THOMASON, MOSER & PATTERSON, L.L.P.  
(713) 623-4844

DECLARATION

*I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and, further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Sec. 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issued thereon.*

Full name of first inventor: SEAN M. SEUTTER

Inventor's signature: Sean Seutter

Date: 2/1/2001

Residence: 4261 Stevenson Blvd., #277

Fremont, CA 94538

Post Office Address: Same as above.

U.S.A.

Country of Citizenship: U.S.A.

Full name of second inventor: MICHAEL X. YANG

Inventor's signature: Michael X. Yang

Date: 2/1/2001

Residence: 793 Cereza Drive  
Palo Alto, CA 94306

Post Office Address: Same as above.

U.S.A.

Country of Citizenship: P.R.CHINA

Full name of third inventor: MING XI

Inventor's signature: Ming Xi Date: 2/1/01

Residence: 138 Beaumere Way  
Milpitas, CA 95035

Post Office Address: Same as above.  
U.S.A.

Country of Citizenship: P.R.CHINA

(Declaration ends with this page)

09776329 020201